

## **Autumn at Hucking Estate**

Discover glorious autumn colour and an abundance of fruits and seeds.



VTPL/Steven Kind

**Hornbeam** can live up to 300 years old, especially if it is coppiced or pollarded. Look out for the leaves turning golden yellow, then orange in autumn.



**Bramble** is glorious in autumn. Its leaves turn a vivid red and juicy, ripe blackberries cover the shrubs, providing a feast for birds, mammals, insects and humans.



**Sycamore** is popular with children who love the 'helicopter' seeds that fall from the tree and twirl to the ground in autumn.



Lords-and-ladies is a shade-loving woodland plant. Its spike of orange berries is very distinctive, poking up through the leaf litter on the woodland floor.



**Field maple** is the UK's only native maple. It's one of the best trees for autumn colour, the leaves turn buttery-yellow then golden before they fall.



Beech trees put on a fantastic display in autumn as their leaves turn a vibrant orange.
Beech nuts area eaten by mice, voles, squirrels and birds.



**Blackthorn** fruits are known as sloes. Blue-black in colour, they ripen from September to October and can be used to make sloe gin, jelly and wine.



**English oak** is perhaps our most iconic tree. Proud and majestic, it supports hundreds of species of insects, birds, mammals and fungi.



**Dog rose** shrubs can be identified in autumn by their bright red rosehips which are high in vitamin C. The seeds contain very fine hairs which children have used as itching powder for generations!

## Explore Hucking Estate through the seasons Download more wildlife spotter sheets at woodlandtrust.org.uk/hucking